Dear Judge Cohen,

I am writing on behalf of Daniel Jay. Daniel is my uncle but is only three years older than I, so to me, he is Uncle D or just Dan.

I am aware that you will be the one to judge and sentence Dan for the crimes he's committed and my heart is heavy with the knowledge that he will now need to pay the consequences for the poor choices he's made. I am saddened by this because I know there is so much more to Dan than these choices.

Because of our closeness in age, Uncle D has always been more like a brother to me than an uncle, and he's been a fantastic "big brother"! As kids, we would run around the neighborhood, playing for hours and I always knew I was 100% protected if he was there, and his protection and support continued into my adult years. During incredibly difficult times like divorce, bankruptcy, miscarriage and broken dreams, Dan was always there to help lift me up and cheer me on, while reminding me that there are brighter days to come. He is a phenomenal motivator for anyone going through hard times!

Uncle D adores his nieces and nephews, as well as his great nieces and great nephews, and they adore him equally. He has an absolutely kind and generous heart and I'm not sure what our family would have done had he not stepped up to care for my grandfather during his last couple years on this earth. There is nothing easy

about 24/7 care for an 84-year-old, bed-ridden man, but Uncle D handled it like a pro. Grandpa was his best friend and I know that caring for him during that time was a blessing to Uncle D, while at the same time, incredibly painful.

Before you hand down your sentence, I just wanted you to know that there's so much more to Dan than the crimes he's committed and he has a family who loves him deeply. Thank you very much for taking the time to read this. I hope your day is blessed!

Sincerely,

Holly Paulin